



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interstate 5 Median Barrier Project to Start

Redding – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is set to begin work on a \$7.8 million construction project that will greatly improve traveler safety and information along a portion of Interstate 5 north of Redding. The Safety Improvement project calls for the installation of a concrete median barrier wall at three locations north of Shasta Lake between the Obrien Undercrossing and the Sacramento River Bridge, north of Pollard Flat. The barrier walls are designed to prevent crossover accidents, keeping errant vehicles within their direction of travel.

The contract has been awarded to the J. F. Shea Co. Inc., of Redding, and is expected to begin as soon as the current weather system subsides. Workers and equipment will be in the construction zones Monday through Friday between 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM. The project is expected to be completed by late December 2003.

Additional features of the contract call for the installation of several types of traveler information services at selected locations. Changeable Message Signs will be used to alert traffic to current road or weather conditions as they proceed north. Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) cameras and Roadside Weather Information System (RWIS) stations will provide real-time information to Internet users to assist with any travel planning needs.

Advance warning signs will alert motorists to lane closures in both the north and southbound fast lanes. A reduced speed limit of 55 MPH within the construction zone will be in effect during work hours and will be enforced by the California Highway Patrol.

Motorists are asked to reduce their speed and drive with caution when approaching any work zone along California highways as this year's construction program and maintenance season begins.

“SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE”

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